

4.2.6.1 Land Resources

No Action Alternative

Under this alternative, SRS non-pit Pu material would be stored in a new F-Area facility (proposed APSF) in stabilized form. The ongoing (no new action) activities conform with present and future land-use plans, policies, and controls. Therefore, no impacts on land use or visual resources would be anticipated at SRS beyond those of existing and future activities that are independent of the proposed action.

Upgrade Alternative

Preferred Alternative: Upgrade With Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site Non-Pit Plutonium Subalternative

Modify Actinide Packaging and Storage Facility for Continued Plutonium Storage

The new APSF in the F-Area would be modified to accommodate SRS non-pit Pu material and RFETS non-pit Pu material. The existing F-Area building and maintenance facilities would support the new facility. The modification would increase the existing footprint of the APSF, however, the facility would be situated entirely within a previously-disturbed protected area. A 1.6-km (1-mi) buffer zone is established for the F-Area.

Land Use. Facility construction and operation would conform with existing and future land use as designated by the current *Savannah River Site Development Plan*. According to the Plan, current F-Area land use is designated industrial operations, while the future land-use category is primary industrial mission. Specifically, the F-Area is one of four SRS waste management areas (SR DOE 1994d:2,11,12). As discussed in Section 4.2.6.8, no in-migration of workers would be required during construction or operation. Therefore, no indirect effects to offsite land use would occur.

Facility modification would not affect other land uses at SRS. There is no prime farmland on SRS. Construction would not be in conflict with land-use plans, policies, and controls of adjacent counties and cities since they do not address SRS. No additional effects to land use would be anticipated from operations.

Visual Resources. Construction and operation affects would be consistent with the industrial landscape character and current VRM Class 5 designation of the F-Area. Due to distance, hilly terrain, and forest cover, visual effects to public access roads with high sensitivity levels (State Highway 125 and SRS Route 1) would not occur.

[Text deleted.]

Upgrade With All or Some Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site Plutonium and Los Alamos National Laboratory Plutonium Subalternative

Modify Actinide Packaging and Storage Facility for Continued Plutonium Storage

The new APSF in the F-Area would be modified to accommodate SRS, RFETS, and LANL Pu material. The existing F-Area buildings and maintenance facilities would support the new facility. The facility would be situated entirely within a previously disturbed protected area. A 1.6-km (1-mi) buffer zone is established for the F-Area.

Although the increase in existing building footprint would be slightly larger than the Upgrade With RFETS Non-Pit Pu Subalternative, the same overall land area would be required. Therefore, direct and indirect impacts on land resources would be anticipated to be similar.

Consolidation Alternative

Construct New Plutonium Storage Facility

Under this alternative, all Pu within the scope of this PEIS would be stored at a single new storage facility to be constructed at SRS. The proposed facility location is an undisturbed, forested area east of the Z-Area. The consolidated Pu storage plant would disturb 58.5 ha (144 acres) of land area during construction of which 56 ha (138 acres) would be used during operations. A buffer zone would be provided between facilities and the SRS site boundary. Pu storage in existing DOE facilities would be phased out.

Land Use. Facility construction and operation of a new consolidated facility for Pu storage would convert undeveloped, forested land to a developed use. However, the proposed action would conform with the current *Savannah River Site Development Plan*, which designates the future land use of the proposed facility site for the primary industrial mission (SR DOE 1994d:11). [Text deleted.] As discussed in Section 4.2.6.8, no in-migration would occur during construction and only minimal in-migration during operation. Accordingly, there would be minimal impacts to the housing sector. Therefore, no indirect effects on offsite land use would occur.

The facility site would be situated on lands managed by U.S. Forest Service (forest management activities). Since the majority of SRS land area is forested and the forest management program at SRS encompasses a broad range of activities, use of this land area would be anticipated to have an inconsequential effect on the program (SR DOE 1984a:8). Construction and operation would not affect other land uses at SRS. There are no prime farmlands on SRS. Construction and operation would not be in conflict with land-use plans, policies, and controls of adjacent jurisdictions since they do not address SRS.

Visual Resources. The current VRM Class 4 designation of the facility site would be changed to Class 5. Due to distance, hilly terrain, and forest cover, visual effects on public access roads with high sensitivity levels (State Highway 125 and SRS Route 1) visual effects would not occur. [Text deleted.]

Collocation Alternative

Construct New Plutonium and Highly Enriched Uranium Storage Facilities

All HEU and Pu within the scope of this PEIS would be stored at a primary new storage plant at SRS. The proposed facility location would be east of Z-Area on an undisturbed parcel presently forested. The disturbed area would be 89.5 ha (221 acres) during construction of which 87 ha (215 acres) would be used during operations. A buffer zone would be provided between facilities and the SRS boundary. Pu and HEU storage in existing DOE storage facilities would be phased out. Direct impacts on land resources would be similar to the Consolidation Alternative. As discussed in Section 4.2.6.8, in-migration is anticipated during construction and operation. However, expected vacancies and historic housing construction rates indicate that housing would be available to accommodate the population growth. Therefore, no indirect impacts to offsite lands would occur.

Subalternative Not Including Strategic Reserve and Weapons Research and Development Materials

Under this subalternative, land effects during construction and operation would be almost the same in extent and magnitude to the No Action Alternative, Upgrade With All or Some RFETS Pu and LANL Pu Subalternative, Consolidation Alternative, and Collocation Alternative because the same facility would be almost the same. However, because the smaller quantity of material would require smaller facilities, it is likely that less land area would be disturbed during construction and used during operations. [Text deleted.]

Phaseout

No new construction or upgrade of existing facilities would occur under phaseout of the Pu storage mission. SRS Pu material would be moved out of the F-Area to a non-SRS consolidation or collocation site or to disposition. Potential impacts on visual resources could occur if facilities are not maintained.

[Text deleted.]